AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of production of a microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to control the incidence of rumen acidosis in food animals by preventing the adherence of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. ~~colony-forming lactic acid-producing~~ bacteria in the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts~~ of said food animals, which method comprises:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. ~~lactic acid producing~~ bacteria ~~that colonize in the intestinal tract of the food animal to be treated whose colonization results in acidosis~~ that have been cultured to stimulate adherence antigens for either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp.;

b. allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to ~~the lactic acid producing~~ to the adherence antigens of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. bacteria ~~bacterium~~;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 including:

drying the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method of Claim 3 including:

providing a dry feed carrier material, said drying of the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs is achieved by coating the dry carrier material with the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein:

the dry feed carrier material includes soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains or beet pulp.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1 including:

mixing the antibody-containing contents of the eggs with a liquid extender palatable to the food animal.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of production of a microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to control the incidence of rumen acidosis in food animals by preventing the adherence of ~~colony-forming-lactic-acid-producing~~ *Streptococcus bovis* bacteria in the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts~~ of said food animals, ~~where said bacteria~~ providing an immunogen that is ~~the~~ a SB antigen from *Streptococcus bovis*, said method comprising:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with the SB antigen from *Streptococcus bovis*;

b. allowing a period of time to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to SB antigen from *Streptococcus bovis*;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said harvested eggs from the eggshells.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8 including:

drying said antibody-containing contents of the eggs.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9 including:

providing a dry feed carrier material, said drying of the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs is achieved by coating the dry carrier material with the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10 wherein:

the dry feed carrier material includes soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains or beet pulp.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 8 including:

mixing the antibody-containing contents of the eggs with a liquid extender palatable to the food animal.

13-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to control the incidence of rumen acidosis caused by ~~lactic acid producing~~ either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. bacteria ~~in the rumen or intestinal tracts of said food animals~~ by reducing the ability of the bacteria to multiply, produced by the method of:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. ~~a lactic acid producing~~ bacteria ~~that colonize in the intestinal tract of the food animal to be treated whose colonization results in acidosis~~ that have been cultured to stimulate adherence antigens;

b. allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to the adherence antigens of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. ~~lactic acid producing~~ bacteria;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 19 wherein the method includes:

drying the antibody-containing contents of the eggs.

21. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 19 including:

a dry feed carrier coated with the antibody-containing contents of the eggs.

22. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 21 wherein:

the dry feed carrier material includes soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains or beet pulp.

23. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 19 including:

a liquid extender mixed with the antibody-containing contents of the eggs.

24. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 23 wherein:

said liquid extender is either liquid molasses or PBS.

25. (Currently Amended) A microbial adherence inhibitor for administration to food animals to control the incidence of rumen acidosis caused by *Streptococcus bovis* bacteria in the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts~~ of said food animals by reducing the ability of the bacteria to multiply, produced by the method of:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with SB antigen from *Streptococcus bovis*;

b. allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody to SB antigen from *Streptococcus bovis*;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells.

26. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 25 wherein said method includes:

drying said antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

27. (Original) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 25 including:

a dry feed carrier material coated with the antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

28. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 27 wherein:

the dry feed carrier material includes soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains or beet pulp.

29. (Previously Presented) The microbial adherence inhibitor of Claim 25 including: a liquid extender palatable to the food animal mixed with the antibody-containing contents of the eggs.

30-35 (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A method for substantially reducing or eliminating the incidence of rumen acidosis and resulting pathosis in food animals caused by the presence of lactic acid forming and liver abscess forming bacteria in the animal by inhibiting the ability of the bacteria to adhere to the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts~~ of the animal to reduce the ability of the bacteria to multiply, said method comprising:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. ~~lactic acid producing~~ bacteria ~~that colonize in the intestinal tract of the food animal to be treated~~ whose colonization results in rumen acidosis and liver abscess forming bacteria and either the *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. having been cultured to stimulate adherence antigens for either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp.;

b. allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. adherence antigens~~the lactic acid producing bacteria~~;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells;

e. drying said separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs;

f. distributing the resulting dried egg antibody product substantially uniformly through an animal feed or water; and

g. supplying the resulting antibody-containing animal feed or water to food animals to substantially prevent adherence of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. ~~the targeted~~ bacteria to the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts of the animals~~.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Original) The method of Claim 37 including:

providing a dry feed carrier material, said drying of the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs is achieved by coating the dry carrier material with the separated antibody-containing contents of said eggs.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 38 wherein:

the dry feed carrier material includes soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains or beet pulp.

40. (Currently Amended) A method for substantially reducing or eliminating the incidence of rumen acidosis in food animals caused by the presence of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus* spp. ~~lactic acid forming~~ bacteria in the animal by inhibiting the ability of the ~~immunogens~~ bacteria to adhere to the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts~~ of the animal to reduce the ability of the ~~immunogens~~ bacteria to multiply, said method comprising:

a. inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. ~~lactic acid producing~~ bacteria ~~that colonize in the intestinal tract of the food animal to be treated whose colonization results in acidosis~~ that have been cultured to stimulate adherence antigens;

b. allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds of antibody to either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. adherence antigens~~the lactic acid producing~~

~~bacteria~~;

c. harvesting the eggs laid by the birds; and

d. separating the antibody-containing contents of said eggs from the shells;

e. distributing the resulting egg mixture antibody product substantially uniformly through an animal feed or water; and

f. supplying the resulting antibody-containing animal feed or water to food animals to substantially prevent adherence of either *Streptococcus bovis* or *Lactobacillus*, spp. ~~the targeted~~ bacteria to the rumen ~~or intestinal tracts of the animals~~.

41. (Original) The method of Claim 40 including:

mixing the antibody-containing contents of said eggs with a liquid extender.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 41 wherein:

said liquid extender includes either liquid molasses or PBS.